

*Release date: May 13, 1996*

*For more information contact: Craig Kuhlman, e-mail [craig\\_a\\_kuhlmana@rl.gov](mailto:craig_a_kuhlmana@rl.gov) or call (509) 376-6826*

*Westinghouse Hanford Company*

## ***Westinghouse Hanford Co. Earns National Safety Council Award of Honor***

*Richland, Wash., May 13, 1996 -- The National Safety Council has given Westinghouse Hanford Company its award of honor for significantly improving its employee safety performance at Hanford.*

*Westinghouse earned the award for reducing the number of lost work day cases during 1995, the number of days employees were away from work due to accident and injury, and the incidence rate of lost work day cases for each 200,000 hours worked.*

*"We are very pleased at the National Safety Council's recognition of our efforts to improve workplace safety," said Denny Newland, director for Emergency, Safety, and Quality Services for Westinghouse Hanford. "We've worked very hard to improve our safety performance. Over the past two years, while undergoing a 30 percent reduction in staff, when it might be expected to see increased injuries in the workplace, we made tremendous progress. We know we still have a long way to go to meet our goal of zero tolerance for on-the-job accidents and injuries," Newland said.*

*To earn the award of honor, Westinghouse's occupational safety statistics were compared against an average of the company's performance the previous three years and the nationwide incidence rates for the waste management industry. In days away from work, Westinghouse performed 77.6 percent better than the comparative average, 65.5 percent below the average lost work day incident rate and 18 percent below the comparative average for total lost work day cases.*

*Newland said that Westinghouse Hanford Company's improved safety performance is good business in ways other than maintaining a safe, healthy and productive workforce.*

*"In 1995, for example, our improved safety record saved the taxpayer more than \$1 million dollars in Workers' Compensation insurance costs," he said. "If you look back at where we were in 1993, as a company we've reduced the number of lost and restricted work day cases by more than 82 percent. And last year we improved 36 percent from 1994," Newland said.*

*Newland credits several safety awareness programs Westinghouse has undertaken as contributors to the improved performance, and National Safety Council award of honor. However, he said, probably the most important factors in the reduction of lost and restricted time accidents are increased employee involvement and ownership, excellent case management and the leadership demonstrated by the company's senior management.*

*Westinghouse Hanford Company is the management and operations contractor for the U.S. Department of Energy's Hanford Site in Southeastern Washington state.*

###

9605-009.ESQ

